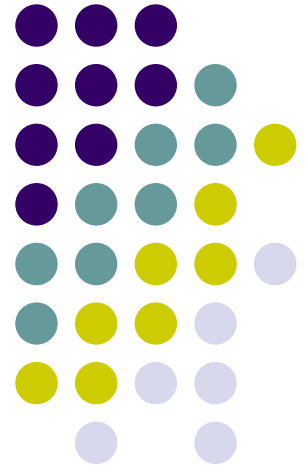
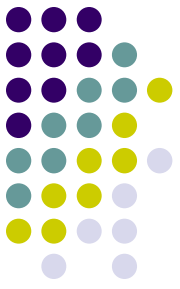


# Improving Peer Editing Using Wikis, Workshops & Mini Laptops



Ryan Miller  
Teacher/Tech Coordinator  
Comstock Northeast Middle School

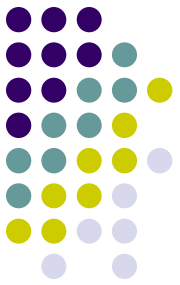




# The Big Idea...

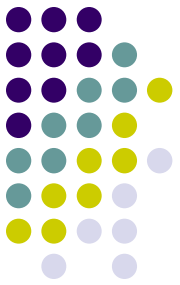
- Wanted to start using Moodle in a powerful way in the classroom
- Tough to get students to peer edit effectively
- Needed more computers in the classroom





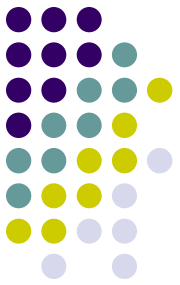
# What We Have...

- 2 computers per classroom (standard)
- One auxiliary computer lab (30 computers)
- Moostock (our own Moodle server)
- 3 computers in my room + 5 mini laptops
- Wired Network



# What We Need...

- Another auxiliary lab
- More teachers using Moodle = the need for more computers
- Laptops on a cart?
- A common peer editing model for our Language Arts Department
- More opportunities to write across the curriculum



# My Approach

- Introduce new assignments, wikis, workshops, etc. together in the lab
- Continue in the lab for a couple of days
- Rotate groups through the 8 computers in my room
- Use for Reader's Workshop Assignments
- Use for my Science classes as well

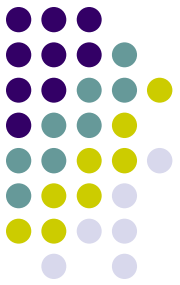


# Mini Laptop Set-up

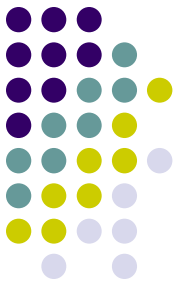
- Arranged Laptops in a cluster
- Used a switch to connect all laptops to one ethernet port
- Needed two UPC's (surge protectors)
- Stored in a MACUL bag ;-)
- Locked in a cabinet



# Asus eeePC



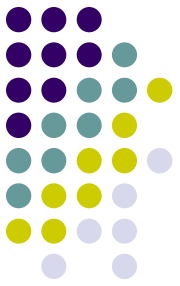
- 2G Surf is the model I chose
- Price was right... \$295 (under \$200 now)
  - Cheaper than an Alpha Smart
- No need for higher memory models – 3 usb ports (flash drive, external hard drive)
- Wireless capable, VGA port (for a projector)
- Asus Website
  - <http://eeepc.asus.com/global/index.html>
- School kids using the mini laptop video
  - <http://eeepc.asus.com/global/video.html?n=1>

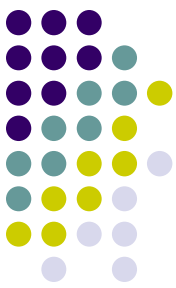


# Asus eeePC - drawbacks

- Little keyboard (my students never complain about this)
- Low memory model could not handle entire Network suite (GroupWise, user space, etc)
- Mouse pad is touchy (small screen)
  - USB mouse

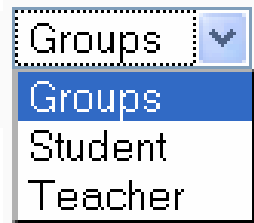
# Students in Action





# Wikis in Moodle

Type



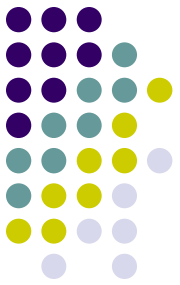
## Wiki types

There are three wiki types: Teacher, Groups, Student. In addition, like any activity, the wiki has the Moodle group modes: "No Groups" "Separate Groups" and "Visible Groups". This leads to the following matrix of nine possibilities:

	No Groups	Separate Groups	Visible Groups
Teacher	There is only one wiki which only the teacher can edit. Students can view the contents.	There is one wiki for every group which just the teacher can edit. Students can view the wiki of their group only.	There is one wiki for every group which just the teacher can edit. Students can view the wikis for all groups.
Groups	There is only one wiki. The teacher and all students can view and edit this wiki.	There is one wiki per group. Students can view and edit the wiki of their own group only.	There is one wiki per group. Students can change the wiki of their own group only. They can view the wikis for all groups.
Student	Every student has their own wiki which only they and their teacher can view and edit.	Every student has their own wiki, which only they and their teacher can edit. Students can view the wikis of other students in their group.	Every student has their own wiki, which only they and their teacher can edit. Students can view the wikis of all other students in the course.

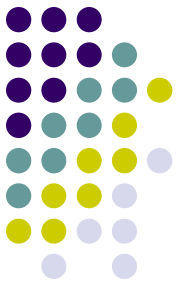
Unless the group mode has been forced by the course settings, it can be set with the groups icons on the course home page after the wiki has been created.

- A teacher can always edit every wiki in the course



# Wikis in Moodle (cont.)

- Visible Groups
  - Must set up groups ahead of time
- This creates one wiki that each group member can edit
- Use CamelCase
  - Creates separate web page within the wiki for each group member
  - Students get used to this fast



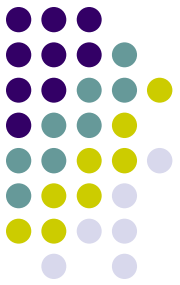
# Workshops in Moodle

- Only attempted one so far
- Maintain groups
- Allows students to assess their own work and the work of others
- Best if you have a very defined assignment with a clear rubric
- Students receive score for their work and how they assess



# Student Work Examples

- Let's take a look at some work my students have done...
- Language Arts:
  - 7 wikis
  - 1 workshop
- Science:
  - 1 wiki
  - 1 workshop



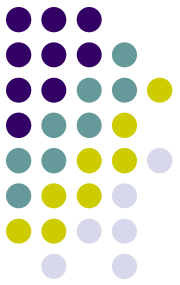
# Pitfalls, Snags, etc.

- Takes time to teach the use of wikis and workshops
- Laptops do not have access to user spaces
  - Have to use a flash drive or work exclusively in Moostock
- Can be tough to fit into the curriculum
- Number of computers in the classroom is a big issue
- Lack of computers in the school could be problematic
- Lab is often booked
- Not enough teachers using Moodle
- Too many teachers using Moodle ;-) ??

# The Curriculum Question(s)??

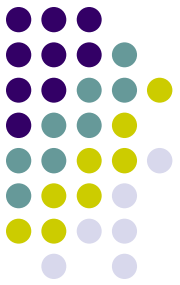


- I found that incorporating wikis and workshops takes up more time than the current curriculum allows
- I had to be creative...
- Is this feasible for all LA teachers to use in their own classrooms?
- Have to see the vision and be comfortable with Moodle for this to work like it should
- This is a test, it is only a test



# Other Possibilities...

- Writing across the curriculum
  - Constellation Story Wiki in Science
- Writing/Peer Editing beyond one classroom
  - Moostock Mania
- Choices
- Surveys/Quizzes
- Discussion Forums (could use this as a basic, first step approach to peer editing)
- Advanced Uploading of Files
- And so much more...



# Contact Info

- Ryan Miller
- [millerr@comstockps.org](mailto:millerr@comstockps.org)
- Great Moodle Resources
  - Moodle Tutorials
    - <http://www.moodletutorials.org/index.php>
  - Intro to Moodle Video
    - [http://www.moodletutorials.org/view\\_video.php?viewkey=97759aa27a0c99bff671](http://www.moodletutorials.org/view_video.php?viewkey=97759aa27a0c99bff671)
  - Moodle Docs
    - <http://docs.moodle.org/>